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JAN 25 2018

FCC Mailroom

Date: January 21, 2018
Members,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: My Strong Support For The Lifeline Program, WC Docket Numbers 17 -287,11- 42,09 -197

Dear Commissioner,

The ability to effectively communicate with the world outside of your home is of the utmost importance. It is for this reason that I support a robust Lifeline program and I urge you to reject the proposals to decimate the program which are currently before you.

The Lifeline program was initiated in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan to help bring tele-communication capabilities to all Americans and to provide subsidized basic phone service for low-income consumers. Lifeline is a program that has worked: the percentage of low-income household with phone service has increased from 80% IN 1985, when Lifeline began, to nearly 92% in 2011. In 2005

the Lifeline program was expanded by President George W. Bush to include wireless service. Beginning in December, 2017, the lifeline program was scheduled to transition from telephone-only to include broadband internet services within a five-year period. The expansion to broadband would have helped these low-income Americans not only stay in touch, it would have helped close the digital divide.

The typical Lifeline subscriber makes just \$14,000 per year; currently, nearly 13 million low-income Americans use Lifeline. It is because of Lifeline that more Americans Seniors can call their loved ones, neighbors, or emergency services in the event of a mishap. Lifeline allows subscribers to speak with their child's educators. It is because of Lifeline has enabled Veterans to access the health, educational, and financial benefits to which they are entitled. For Low-income families, a telephone is a key connection to education and economic opportunities, and safety during times of emergencies.

Currently proposal would harm the Lifeline program by:

- Eliminating service for approximately 75 percent of current participants, particularly mobile services;
- Restricting voice service support to only low-income households in rural areas;
- Install a Lifetime cap on Lifetime recipients;
- Place an overall budget cap on the Lifeline program; and

Please act to protect Lifeline and reject these draconian proposals. I urge you to further promote Lifeline so that all Americans may have access to communication. Thank you for hearing my views.

Caroline Oliver
Sincerely,

(sign and print your name and remember to include your address)

*Caroline Oliver 50 Greenville Rd
Sundown, NY 12740*

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Sincerely,

José L. Santiago

José L. Santiago

(sign and print your name and remember to include your address)

132 S main ST

Ellenville NY 12528

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445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

(sign and print your name and remember to include your address)

Ernesto Pezaza
ERNESTO PEZAZA
5 Glass
Ellenville
12428

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Sincerely,

Ricardo Ortiz

(sign and print your name and remember to include your address)

 *Ricardo Ortiz*

2 Steven St. Ellenville, NY 12428

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Members,
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445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: My Strong Support For The Lifeline Program, WC Docket Numbers 17 -287,11- 42,09 -197

Dear Commissioner,

The ability to effectively communicate with the world outside of your home is of the utmost importance. It is for this reason that I support a robust Lifetime program and I urge you to reject the proposals to decimate the program which are currently before you.

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Sincerely,

Jeremy Bennett

(sign and print your name and remember to include your address)

Jeremy Bennett

P.O. Box 133
Greenfield PK.
12435

The attached document is part of a mass mailing. The number of identical documents as specified in the File Number/City, St. field have been received by the Commission on this same date. You may view the documents at the FCC Reference Information Center, at 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, Room CY-A257.